The Times.

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MANCHESTER BUREAU, 1921 HULL STREET.

MRS. 8. C. HUTCHINSON, 7 LOMBARD STREET.

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1809.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF CHRISTMAS

deal about expansion and the war in the and the speculators' panic in Wall Street. dential election next year. But as some one has well said the great mass of the people do not live and move in the midst of these issues. "The real world," he adds, "the great big questions are of love and home and conscience and duty. The enormous problems are in the cradle and at the school desk; the vital issues, sweetheart and wife; the commanding themes, mother and son. It is in them the great world is interested, far more than in the affairs of State, of the complex ties of

We offer this as our Christmas thought. Herein is the true philosophy of the season. Trade and finance and politics are, after all, but incidents in our national life. Our national character is apart from all these, and from quite another source. Out of the heart are the issues of life, suits for the benefit of the county orand home is where the heart is. It is in the commission "shall the home that character is formed, and sir ar any place or places within the State John Howard Paine sang our national and shall have power to send for per

and we will show you a model citizen. Christmas is peculiarly the festival of the home. It is the great season of famlly gatherings. It is the season when be adopted. A commission of this charfamily fies are the closest, when father acter, composed of discreet and patriotic and mother and children are on a dead level. For that once Time turns backward and makes one a child again. Christmas at home is the season of good things in more than one sense. All the sweets do not go into the cookies. Tender countenance; gacred influences of other songs ring in our ears and fill the heart with melody. The stockings are always hung, and the good Santa Claus of the may this be the best Christmas of all. The may this be the Christman of all. The country is prosperous and there is plenty in the land. But Christmas eleer and happiness do not depend upon prosperity. Happiness is not from without, it proceeds from the heart and courses through the veins, and outside influences are powerless to rob us of it.

"And earth, responsive, sonds again Its allelulia clear, And woods and bills, the glad refrain,

And love and charity awake

And joy and child'sh mirth Turn sorrow's tears to smiles and make

A paradise of earth."

THE EVIL AND THE REMEDY.

The Times has been, for a number of American people the wreighed character of their financial system and the measbetter occasion for impressing this mutpresent, and The Times proposes to keep their attention directed to the subject.

We look upon whatever we seen in the New York World with suspicion, but on Thursday last the World has the following story, told with great circumstantiality and detail. It says the panie in Wall Street was deliberately outlined by the Rockefellers and some associates for a purpose. The Rockefellers are principal owners of the Standard Off Company, sonal property which has been bidden and they concluded that if the gas used in New York and other large cities were made from crude petroleum instead of from | taxed. In short, we believe in carrycoal their profits would be very greatly ing out to the letter, as far as possible, stocks controlled by a syndicate composed uniform. Let us have the Tax Commisin part of a man named Daley, W. C. sion. The cost will be trivial to the banks free to issue to the people in all

Whitney and some other very wealthy men. Failing in this, they organized a bear raid upon all securities in which the owners of the gas stocks men were interested, and thus broke down the prices of all stocks and spread ruln amongst speculators all over the nation, to drive the gas syndicate into terms. The World says that the losses they had forced up to Wednesday night last amounted to

almost four hundred millions of dollars. This story may be true, or it may be false. Appearing in the World, the probabilities all are of its falsebood. But it is an entirely possible thing in these days of mammoth fortunes.

Now, what we want to direct attention to is this. There is no way to curb the power of men controlling the vast means that the Rocke ellers control in manipulating the stock market, and men who chaose to speculate in stocks know that sonsequently no one to blame but them selves, when Mr. Bockefeller and Mr. Morgan gives them a wrench. But where ne of these manufactured punics is confined to Wall Street. Our currence affects the banks in Baltimore, Richmond, weeks, the panie might have raged in Wall Street, but Richmond's busines would have gone on undisturbed.

PROPOSED TAX COMMISSION.

We have received from Senator S. I. Lupton a copy of his bill providing for the appointment of a Tax Commission Under the provisions of the bill th Commission shall consist of five, two o whom shall be members of the Senate and three of whom shall be members o Philippines and the war in South Africa. the House of Delegates, and it shall be the duty of the Commission as early a the prosperity of the country and the presi- practicable to examine into subjects of taxation and ascertain "what shall be an equitable and just manner of assers ment of values and what burdens of taxation shall be imposed thereon." It is further provided that the Com-

mission "shall examine into and report some equitable and just method of as certaining the value of all stocks, bonds mortgages, notes, franchises and other forms of indebtedness, both tangible and intangible, and recommend such legislation as may be necessary to collect taxes when so assessed." The Commission will be required also "to examine into the present system of making coun ty and city levies and make such recom mendations thereon as may in its judgas to whether or not there shall be a proper license tax on business and puranthem. Show us the man who loves his sons and papers, administer oaths," and home and his family, and measures fairly so on. No salaries will be paid to the up to the obligations, and who lives fully members of the Commission, but they up to the privileges of the home circle, will be reimbursed by the State for any money paid out for actual expenses while

on duty. This is a wise measure, and it should men, can do much to bring about a more equitable system of taxation in Virginia, and such a system is sorely needed.

In discussing the question of assessments, the Brunswick Gazette says that "those who are clothed with the duty of assessing lands for taxation should be memories are revived and shine in the men of sound judgment who will faithfully and conscientiously perform the days steal in and warm the blood; old task which their positions will impose, and sgnificantly adds;

They should see to it that their valua-tions are fair and uniform and above all, that they are not too high. We hear may this be the best Christmas of all. The that is best and noblest of home is associated with the season, and so it happens that, apart from its religious significance. Christmas is a powerful factor in shaping our national character. May every home in the hand be filled with good cheer, and in the hand be filled with good cheer, and in the State lax it makes a vast difference of the State lax it makes a vast difference in the state lax it makes a vast difference in the state lax it makes a vast difference in the state lax it makes a vast difference in the state lax it makes a vast difference in the state lax it makes a vast difference in the state lax it makes a vast difference in the state lax it makes a vast difference in the state lax it makes a vast difference in the state lax it makes a vast difference in the same in the state lax it makes a vast difference in the state lax it makes a vast difference in the state lax it makes a vast difference in the state lax it makes a vast difference in the state in the state lax it makes a vast difference in the state ence. If the valuaton in Bronswick is higher than in Mecklenburg and Greens-ville, the land owners of Brunswick will be compelled to pay more State taxes than those of these two counties where caluations are lower.

Here is one of the great difficulties in the way of uniform assessment. In some communities it makes no difference whether the local rate of taxation be high or low, provided that the taxpayer pay the same amount of local taxes under either assessment. In other communities a high assessment and a low rate of taxation are preferable, for the rate of taxation is a factor in securing capital from the outside. Hence it in that in most of the cities property is assessed at its full value, whereas the assessment in some of the counties is years, pointing out incessantly to the half or less than half the true value. But as our Brumwick contemporary points out, the rate of taxation for the ures necessary to reforming it so as to State being the same everywhere, commake it sulfable to their necessibles. No munities in which the assessment is high pay more than their just propor tor upon them has ever arisen than the tion of taxes to the State as compared with communities where the assessmen

in low. It is the duty of the State to see to it that assessments are uniform, for that is the only way in which we can get uniform taxation. In saying this we are not taking sides with the cities as against the country districts. We want to see the cities pay their share, but no more than their share, of the tax burden. Moreover we desire that peraway to avoid the assessor, shall be brought out from its hiding place and increased. They accordingly tried to pur- that providen of the constitution which chase a controlling interest in the gas | declares that faxation shall be equal and

MUNYON'S INHALER

CURES CATARRH Colds, Coughs.

Hay Fever, Bronchitis, Asthma and all Diseases of the Throat and Lungs.

Clouds of Medicated Vapor are inhaled through the month and emitted from the nes-trils, cleansing and vaporizing all the inflamed and dississed parts which cannot be reached by medicine taken into the stomach.

It reaches the sore spots—It heals the raw places—It goes to the seat of disease—It nots as a balm and tonic to the whole system—\$1.00 at Orwogists or sent by mail. 1305 Arch 38., Philis-

State, and 'we believe that the benefits will be substantial.

A MESSAGE PROM LAWTON. In the course of his speech in New York on Friday night before the New England Society, Mr. John Barrett read from a letter received within the last month from the late General Lawton, an extrac which ought to make a deep impression pering the administration in the presect cressed the wish, most solemnly, that the knew it, and said that if the real history, inspiration and conditions of the insurand their inhabitants and the relation of both to the East could be understood in America, there would be no more talk of an unjust "shooting of government" into he Filipines, or of hauling down our flag in the Philippines. "If I am shot by a Filipino bullet," he concluded, "it might as well come from one of my own men because I know from observation confirm ed by captured prisoners, that the contin nance of the fighting is chiefly due to pe ports sent out from America."

That is a terrible indictment and i omes from one who, a little while after his letter was written, was shot to death by a Filipino insurgent. The Times wa opposed to the war with Spain and when many who are now talking of anti-im declared and after American blood had been spilled, all true Americans were for cuting the war to a successful finish, and for discharging all the obligations that the war had brought upon us. One of these obligations is to restore peace and order and to establish good government n the Philippine Islands, and to this end t is necessary that the insurrection be put own. There is nothing else to do and it would be an everlasting disgrace to our government if we should withdraw our troops and leave the great masses of the Philippine inhabitants, who have trusted is, to fight it out with Aguinaldo.

The administration has determined to our down the insurrection and our troop ire fighting to that end. Yet, General Lawton says, and everybody knows the it is true, that the government has been much hampered by captious criticism a home and that the insurgents have receive ed their chief encouragement from

cheer, and we would not indulge on this glad day in any harsh criticism, but we io most heartly commend, to the attention of those whom we have indicated this last solemn message from a brave general who laid down his life for his

DEMOCRACY IN SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina is going to be the scen of a flerce canvass if State Senator. Joseph W. Barnwell tries to get the Democratic nomination from the district which is now represented by Colonel William Elliott, of

The fight will serve to throw a strong light on the past record and services of Congressman Elliott, and if the voters of his district finally decide to entrust their representation to Mr. Barnwell, it will be a high tribute to that gentleman's worth, for few constituencies have ever had a more faithful, able and vigorous repre sentative than the one that for fourteen consecutive terms has returned Colone

Elliott to Congress. During his service he has been most eifi cient in building up the naval station at Port Royal, thereby giving South Carolin. the largest dry dock between Newpor News and New Orleans, and by having the appropriations increased he has greatly idded to the value of Charleston as a deep

But it is not to his ability as a represetative of the money needs of the voters that his position is due. It is rather be cause of a personality which has been able to carry a district for the Democrati party that normally is Republican, and hat went Republican when another nomnce ran on the Democratic platform. The strength of his character is shown in nothing better than the fact that he has been able to retain his seat in Congress though opposed to Tillmanism and the dispensary law. In 1898 he opposed free silver and though the popular sentiment was overwhelmingly in its favor, he was

triumphantly returned. Colonel Elliot: has achieved and maintained a parition of the highest homoand confidence in the Democratic party and now at this juncture when all true Democrats are trying to reunits upon sem mutual grounds it will be most unfortunate if the services, advice and personality of so tried and respected a Democrat are

The Richmond Times confesses there is not enough money in circulation. Says that it doubts if there are \$250,000 of currency in the whole State outside the offies, and then goes on to add that the country people have absolutely no medium of exchange and are reduced to barter of exchange and are reduced to barier. The Times' utterances are remarkable for a newspaper, which is frantic for a gold standard and contracted monetary system.—Bedford Bulletin.

The Times is for the gold standard, but not for a "contracted monetary system." The Times wants the government to fix the standard of value, but leave the

parts of the land as much currency as they require in their business transactions.

It is said that there has been a larger percentage of sunshine on the Atlantic coast, including Virginia, during the fall months, than has been the case for years.— Fredericksburg Star.

That is a beautiful Christmas thought.

The South Boston Times says that Senafor Barksdale "has a facial expression bearing a striking resemblance to Ben Tillman." Now let the Senator resolve for a new year that he will turn out a

Now let us have a poem about the man with the package.

OUR RELIGIOUS CONTEMPORA-RIES.

Christmas season has been looked upon as peculiarly a season of reconciliation and restoration of good-will and pleasant relations where they have been strained or worse. And one could hardly conceive of worse. And one could hardly conceive of a more aiting way than this of celebrating the anniversary of that occasion when the angel choir saug. "On earn peace, geod-will among men." In the old days of sailing vessels and very long veyages there was said to be a custom, very beautiful of its kind. In the course of three or four years of enforced intimacy, many inhunderstandings and quarrels ocmany internderstandings and quarrels oc-curred among the crews. And so, when a vessel was entering its home harbor the ptain called all the crew on deck, and, candain called all the crew on deck, who, bolding an empty bag, each man came for-ward and dropped into it his quarrel, or his bitterness or whatever unkind experi-ence he had, and then the bag was weighted with a cannon ball, tightly tied, and dropped overbeard, carrying with it all old oursels and ambline all to begin and off-open overboard, carrying all to begin affects. So, at this Christmas season, we may one and all, in memory of the first "Gloria in Excelsia," drop all our evil thoughts and unkind feelings into the forgotten past, and by Gad's good grace gin afresh.-Southern Churchman,

The Religious Herald reproduces emment on army chaplains and adds: This is sound doctrine, in the main, We are glad to see our neighbor speaking out

n this straightforward fashion. It will be inficult to corecet the chaptainey evil, which is so firmly entrenched and has exted so long. We understand that the ust army bill which passed Congress had to provision for chaptains. Whether this no provision for chapsains, or mintentions omission was deliberate or mintentions we do not know. But in either case it significant. We have been told, upon was seems to us good authority, that the variantary religious agencies—such as the Christian Commission, the Y. M. C. and the Red Cross—did far more effects, and the Red Cross—did far more effects.

and the Red Cress did far more than was accom-plished by the regular chaplains.

We do not mean to utter a word in dis-persegment of faithful, conscientious men who filled these positions; but the very fact that they were officials of the govern ment would in the nature of the govern-tend to make their service more or ica-perfunctory and formal. Besides, the example for these positions on the part of denominations and ministers is far from edifying.

A green Christmas has not been thought a promise of good health. But this year the holiday season and the close of the year brings to all so much of blessing that we may make our Christmas another Thanksgiving Day. With the returning wave of confidence and prosperity, there plenty of work to do. There are wage earn, and bread to eat, and fire on the hearth and clothes for the children. Our war in the far off Islands is virtually at an end, and the blessing of peace with all the world rests upon our land.—Central

At Christmas time we celebrate-all the levout and faithful, all the careless and indifferent, of all the Christian lands and cattered communities-the great festival of the opening up of direct communication we ween the heavenly country, through ninite distances, and the earthly shores, one end of the cable is inked to the eigrif throne in the heavenly places. The her, borne in the hand of a babe, is tied apporarily around a manger, in a stable the little town of Bethlehem in Judea nd you ever touch a telegraph wire feel the pulsations of electricity as measure after message went over the line? If you are an expert in telegraphy, you can read the message by the touch anywhere along the line. So now listen to this line ome down from heaven, and you will get very first message that comes in en! Glory to God in the highest; on good-will among men. Christian advocate.

CURRENT TOPICS,

A writer in one of our Virginia exchanges says:

"I may be wrong, but through my specs" does look like Christianity is evolving te a mercenary institution of service minions, who be actuated wholly by the principle involved, as they read it, in 'the laborer is worthy of his hire.'"

That is the only principle upon which the church can succeed. There was a time when the church lived on aims and the preacher was a pensioner. Now the church a supported by the supported b supported by assersments upon its mem. bership and the preachers are paid a regbership and the preachers are paid ular salary. The more independe church becomes, the greater will

The Boston Journal says: "On New Year's day next 1,000 employes of the Pennsylvania railroad will be retired on pensions. This is in accordance with a scheme that was drafted several months

effuence and its accomplishments.

go and was widely noticed.

The plan is an excellent one, and where a corporation is otherwise human ere is a reasonable chance that an em-ove may grow old in its service. It will a glad day for labor when it is thus as-

d of something against a rainy whether such a day ever comes of The sch me deserves to be extended. The system is not only humans, but I There comes a time in the life f every man so employed when he is no apable of measuring up to the require pents of the position and the efficiency of he service demands that he be retired, retirement fund should be had in every policemen and teachers in the

SOUTHERN NOTES

The establishment of a State sugar refinery and mill at Hattiesburg, Miss., opcrated by convict labor, on the same plan s other State farms, is being advocated.

One hundred members of the alumni of the University of Alabama, at a meeting n Birmingham, declared the sale of the ,400 acres of the university lands to the Sloss-Sheffield Company, at 12.00 per tere, too low, improper and irregu-ar, and severely criticized Governor Johnston, of that State, Further action by trustees of the university will be taken. and a thorough investigation made,

A fire or incendiary origin at Op deka, Ala., resulted in a loss of \$2,000.

Near Scranton, Miss., & fee days ago. eight wild turkeys walked in b a farmer yard and into his door, w'en they were driven off by a dog-

otherwise improving/the town.

Biloxi. Miss., is paping its streets and

Tutt's Pills Cure All Liver IIs.

ARE YOU BANKRUPT in health. constitution undermined by ex-

travagance in eating, by disregarding the laws of nature, or physical capital all gone, if so,

NEVER DESPAIR

Tutt's Liver Pills will cure you. For sick headache, dyspepsia, sour stomach, malaria, torpid liver, constipation, biliousness and all kindred diseases.

Tutt's Liver Pills an absolute cure.

Me, will be moved to a point near Hickory, N. C. The mill is capitalized at \$125,600, and operates 7,500 spindles and 200 Property to the amount of \$150,000 has

been destroyed by fire at Florence, S. C. Christmas Garlands, The stream in the frozen flags was s

And white as a bar of pearl;
The swinging balls of the cottonwood
Were caught in a gusty swirl,
As through the gloam of the beaten elms
And the dust of the quaking firs,
Astride of the northern blast he came— The knight of the crystal spurs, The lithe, long withes of the willow tree

Were bent by the ruthless gale; The berries that clung to the dogwood sprigs Were rattled about like hall, Were rattled about like hall,
And not a shimmer of russet-red,
Nor a fragment of umber-brown,
Remained on the oak tree's mighty
boughs,
Nor the shuddering alder's crown.

But though the point of his large was sharp.
And his mood was harsh and wild,
He turned aside from the evergreens
With the changeful mind of a child.
The shivering vines were shriveled black,
And the buckeye's fallen burs
Were covered thick with a frozen rime,

by the knight of the crystal spurs. But the shaken plumes of the cedar

boughs
The frest-born fiery glow
Of clustered heads on the holly tree,
The pearls of the mistletoe,
He touched them not with a smiting hand, Though his will was well to slay, For cedar and holly and mistletoe Are sacred to Christmas day,

Information for the Young.

"Pa, what's a ripe old age?" *
"That's the age at which a man begins to realize that he's not the only apple on he tree."-Chicago Times-Herald.

Perhaps

"Water," said the temperance orator, "is nature's own beverage. It comes to us from the clouds. If instead of water it "You would then be too full for utter-ame," interrupted a voice from the gal-lery.

Great Expectations.

Brown-What are these two things that will make your Christmas happy? Mrs. Brown-The one is to have Johnnie stop blowing his whistle and the other to have you swear off wetting yours.—Judge.

"Now, Freddy, what do you want for "Oh, gran'pa, gimme somepin' real silly; ran'ma ellus gives me somepin' sen'sble " Indianapolis Journal,

Poor and Needy.

Editor of The Times: Sir.—Whil'st hundreds of poor children will be made happy by the toys and books so kindly sent to my office this nonth, the supply is by no means equal

o the demand.

Persons having cloaks, jackets or any articles of cast off clothing can baye them judiciously distributed among the needy by sending them to my office. Remember what we are told in the lospel: "Give to them that cannot re-

compense you." Luke II. c. II and II. LEWIS W. BURWELL, Secretary Citizens' Relief Ass'n. 1012 east Main street Richmond, Va., December 22, 1889.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 22, 1899.

Overy Editor Times: Dear Sir.—Can you please inform me through your Query Column, of the date of the beginning of the twentieth century whether January 1, 1900, or January 1 toot, and ablies

A READER. (The twentieth century begins on January 1, 1901.—Ed.)

Is it Hoodwinking?

The report comes from Richmond that the bill to do away with the office of Register of the Land Office is prompted ot so much by the desire to save expenses to the State as it is for other reasons. This cry of retrenchment is merel pretext, a subtifuge to deceive and catch the acquiescence of the tax-payers the ulterior motive being to make better positions for favorites, those who "speak the language of the tribe." We do not youch for the accuracy of this report. ince we are not in a position to verify t, but it does look that the pittance to be saved in making the change would not compensate for the doing away with so time-honored an adjunct of the State government as this office has become.-Blackstone Courier.

Penitentiary Chaplain.

Governor Tyler's recommendation to the Legislature that a chaplain for the penitentiary should be provided for by law is no donor inspired by the best of motives. But it should never be adopted. We want no State religion in this coun try. Such a measure would bring no end of mischief. It adopted the first question that would arise would be what religion should be preached—Jew. Catholic, or Protestant? There would be a sramble for the place just like we see for other political offices. Down with it:—Page Courier.

St. Paul's Sunday-School,

St. Paul's Stunday-School.

This afternoon at 4:30 o'clock the children of St. Paul's Sunday School will hold the P. Christmas celebration. The entertainment will be more elaborate than usual. Little Miss Gussie Reinhardt will sing a solo, and Miss Annie Louise Reinhardt will render some sacred musical selections on the violin. The choristers have also some music especially prepared for the occasion, and it promises to be a most interesting affair. Springvale Cotton Mill, of Springvale, interesting affair,

FRESH GOSSIP FROM GOTHAM | §

Career of Silver Dollar Smith, a Famous Character.

SMALL BOY A MILLIONAIRE.

Demorest's Magazine Has Been Absorbed by the Bonners-Lost Money in Wall Street and Killed Himself.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.-Special.-The leath of Silver Dollar Smith, mentioned n The Times of to-day, removes one of New York's most interesting characters. He was born in Vienna, Austria, March o, 1851, but while an infant his parents brought him to this city, settling on the East Side. As a boy his career was varied. His father was a cousin of the magician Hermann, and acted for many years as an assistant to Hermand in his xhibitions, and young Smith accompanied them in several tours of the world. In issis he ran away from home to be a drummer boy in the army.

Early in the 'Pos Smith became associated with John J. O'Brien, then a leading Republican politician in this city, and

in 1884 he was elected to the State Legis-lature, in which he served during the years 1885 to 1889. He was elected an Alderman in 1890, in which capacity he served until 1893. He was the supreme political power in the Eighth Assembly district for many years. When Mr. Smith established his saloon

on Essex street 12 years ago he carned the sobriquet of "Silver Dollar" from the fact that on the floor between the blocks of marbig were comented 400 silver dollars and 2,400 more in the panels of the bar and other fixtures, making a total of \$2,800. The idea has been imitated in many cities.

A LUCKY BOY.

A LUCKY BOY.

A little boy, nine years old, has inher-ted millions through the death of his

ited millions through the death of his father. He is James Flanagan Dechert, son of the late Zeilott D, Dechert.

Mr. Dechert and his son were the sole beneficiaries under the will of Mrs. Dechert, who died about a year ago, leaving an estate the value of which was estimated the solution of the soluti mated at from one to three millions. With the death of the father the entire estate passes to the boy, who will not obtain control of it, however, until 25 years old Mrs. Dechert was Miss Lillian Panagan a daughter of James Flanagan, who madmillions as a brewer in this city. She was married about 11 years ago to Mr. Dech-

ert, a lawyer. Their only child-James Flanagan Dechett-was designated in his mother's will to be the sole beneficiary of estate upon the remarriage or death DEMOREST'S MAGAZINE NO MORE A contract was signed to-day transfer ring all copyrights, title and subscription ists of Demorest's Magazine to Rober

lists of Demorest's Magazine to Robert Bonner's Sons. Demorest's Magazine will be discontinued, and the fashion and pattern departments, Half Minute Talks and World's Progress, will be continued in the Ledger Monthly.

The trial of William Newfeld, for the murder of Mrs. Annie Kronman, is creating considerable interest here, it will be recalled that Mrs. Kronman was found murdered in her flat, and her husband was at first charged with the crime.

District Attorney Gardiner fell from a chair, on which he was standing, and broke a rib. He was in his office at the time, trying to get a book from the shelf.

time, trying to get a book from the shelf.
The retail dry goods firm of John M.
Conklin & Son, 426 Fulton street, Brooklyn. made a general assignment yesterday. The firm was originally composed of John M. Conklin, who died recently; his son William Conklin, and William Howard, The store was established in Pebruary

The total assets of the firm were said to be \$155.00, of which \$125,000 were represented by stock, and the balance by book accounts. The liabilities were unknown.

THE FRENCH BALL.

The carnival and masquerade ball of the Cercle Francals de l'Harmonie will be held at Madison Square Garden on the night of January Eth. Local char in which the club is interested will share in the proceeds of the ball, as in past

In spite of the bear raid on Brooklyn Rapid Transit, that campany decided at the meeting of the directors to increase the salaries of its old employes. Comptroller Coler is preparing a state-

ment on municipal ownership of fran-chises, which he says will demonstrate that the burdens of taxpayers would be ecreased to a vast extent under this ystem COULDN'T STAND MISFORTUNE.

William Mutter, 42 years old, a member of the firm of Kimball Br tobacco manufacturers, at 48 Frank in street, New York city, committed sui-ide yesterday by shooting. He is said to have lost considerable money in Wall treet recently.

DEFENCES FOR THE CAPITAL.

Powerful Fortifications Will Be Placed at Cape Henry.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Special.—From information that may be considered most reliable, it has been learned that the improvements contemplated by the Gov-ernment at Cape Henry, Va., will not be carried out and that the plans for the lefenses of the Chesapeake, James and

Potomac have undergone the most radi-cal changes and alterations.

It is generally known that extensive and careful surveys have been made at Cape Henry and that it was at one time the intention of the Government to construct here one of the most powerful coast de-fenses in the world. The reservation was one square mile in area and the which were to be placed here were of the most improved patterns and o creat effectiveness

Later investigations, however, proved that it would be difficult to properly con-trol the entrance of the bay, especially at night, owing to the fact that the channe at this point is five miles wide.

The plan now is to make this stategi more extensive system of defenses have been considered by the War Department These; from what can be learned, arrang for the dredging of Lynn Haven Bay in let and the building of a breakwater alon that point. Lynn Haven Bay will be made the remdexous of a powerful fleet consisting of monitors and torpedo-boats having light draught and this rendezvou will in turn be protected by pow

thore batteries. In addition to this extensive works will be erected at Willoughby Spit and old Fort Wool, commonly known as the "Rip-

Raps."

It is altogether probable the old works at Fort Wool will be destroyed and new protections constructed. The most modern cannon will be mounted at these points and will be able to make it impossible for and will be able to make it impossion any fleet to force a passage, thus affording ample protection to the enormous interests of the cities of Norfolk, Newport Richmond, Washington and Balti-News, Richmond, Washington and B

Judge Minor's Court, The jury having adjourned for the session there were no cases in Judge Minor's court yesterday. The case of E. B. Taylor, administrator,

against L. A. Lawton and E. C. La

8 Cr Leader for This Week

Sterling Silver From now till Christmas our Store will

No. 4

A perfect mouth wash. A large bot T. A. MILLER, 519 E. Broad St.

Eighty-Fifth Year!

ALMANACK. ...1900...

Now ready for delivery. James E. Goode Printing Co., (JOHN T. WEST, Propriet

7 N. 7th St. - Richmond, Va.

was concluded in the Law and Equity Court Friday, when judgment was ren-dered for \$400. Same against George E. Taylor, for \$400. Same against Charles S. Taylor, for \$400. What the Mayor Says.

Several days will elapse before Mayor R. M. Taylor will put his signature of the ordinance granting franchises to the Richmond Passenger and Power Com-

He told me that he wanted to look around and see what he was doing. He has been asked by both members of the Council and Beard of Aldermen to sign the ordinance at once.

William Mason Cut,

At it o'clock yesterday morning William Mason, a negro, was badly stabled in Nelson's bar-room at 804 St. John street. The knife entered his left side and penetrated the lung.
Dr. Frank M. Canningham attended to his injuries. No report of the matter was made to the police.

Primary Entertainment, "Santa Claus' Decision," a beautiful cantata, will be given by the primary department of the Grace-Screet Baptert church on Wednesday, the 27th at 1.30 o'clock P. M. Mrs. W. W. Lerew, the officient and faithful organist, and carefully trained the little tots, and the programme promises to be the most interesting and brightest of all the entertainments given by this class.

Funeral Services.

The funeral of Mr. Robert J. Mahon, who died at his home. No. 1120 north Twenty-fourth street, will take place from the residence to-morrow. The interment will be in Oakwood.

Mrs. Odlis O. Hampton died at her home, No. 1918 east Broad street, yesterday morning, after suffering from rhoumatism for some time. The remains will be taken Funeral Services.

morning, after suffering from rheumatism for some time. The remains will be taken to Buckner's, on the Chesapeake and Onlo radiroad.

Ine obsequies of Captain Richard E. Frayser took place yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The burial was in Hollywood. The remains of Mr. James Manile will be laid to rest in Oakwood Cemetery today at 3 P. M.

The remains of Delegate M. S. Newberne, of Norfolk county, who died hers Friday, were buried yesterday. He had been a very ill man, and had been sick only a few days.

To Receive Offerings. The doors of Clay-Street Methodist church were kept open on yesterday afternoon from 4 to 8 o'clock for the receiving of the donations for the poor by the members of the congregation. The doors will also be open this morning from 9 to 10 o'clock for the same purpose.

Henrico Notes.

James E. Perkins was arrested yester-day on a warrant sworn out by his wife, charging him with abusing her. Clerk Waddill issued marriage license yesterday to Frank Watson and Opoe N.

May Not Accept.

It is understood that Rev. R. W. Patton will probably not accept the call to the pastorate of St. Mark's church. It is thought that he has been prevailed upon by the members of Christ church, Roa-

noke, to remain with them Marriage License Clerk Christian issued marriage license yesterday to Mr. Arch. D. Parker and Miss Emily Otelia Garnett. They will be

married to-morrow.

Children's Entertainment. The Grace-Street Presbyterian Sunday school will have an entertainment for the children of the school next Wednesday afternoon at 5 o'clock in the Sunday-

ROSES. VIOLETS. VALLEY HYACINTHS. CARNATIONS.

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